

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 12, 23, 26 and 27 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus that permits loading and unloading of a recording medium that stores image data so as to be readable by an external printer, the image processing apparatus comprising:

an analysis unit that reads out, from the recording medium, analyzes print setting items recorded by the external [[a]] printer and analyzes the read-out print setting items, to set, in advance by the image processing apparatus, a print subject image and a print condition onto ~~stored in~~ the recording medium;

~~said print setting items relate to the function which the printer accommodates; and~~

a generation unit that generates additional data relating to a print condition setting required upon printing by the printer based on the print setting items analyzed by the analysis unit.

2. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the print setting items are recorded by the printer.

3. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes a directory for managing the print setting items stored by the printer independently of the image data.

4. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the recording medium includes a directory for managing automatic print data for automatically printing the image data by the printer.

5. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the automatic print data is a DPOF file.

6. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an image sensing unit.

7. (Original) An image processing apparatus equipped with a printing unit and that permits loading and unloading of a recording medium that is mountable on a digital camera and stores image data photographed by the digital camera, the image processing apparatus comprising:

a recording unit that records print setting items according to a specification of the printing unit in the recording medium;

an image processing unit that performs image processings on the image data according to the automatic print data read from the recording medium; and

a control unit that controls a printing process to be performed by the printing unit of the image data processed by the image processing unit based on the automatic print data recorded in the recording medium.

8. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the recording unit records the print setting items in a directory independent of a directory that stores the image data.

9. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the print setting items include print function data of the printing unit.

10. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the print function data includes at least one of a staple function data and two-side print function data.

11. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the automatic print data is a DPOF file.

12. (Currently amended) A method for processing data for an image processing apparatus that permits loading and unloading of a recording medium that stores image data so as to be readable by an external printer, the method comprising:

reading out, from the recording medium, analyzing print setting items recorded by the external [[a]] printer and analyzing the read-out print setting items, to set, in advance by the image processing apparatus, a print subject image and a print condition onto [[in]] the recording medium;

~~said print setting items relates to the function which the printer accommodates;~~
and

generating additional data relating to a print condition ~~setting~~ required upon printing by the printer based on the print setting items analyzed in the analyzing step.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12 wherein the print setting items are recorded by the printer.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of managing the print setting items stored by the printer in a directory of the recording medium independently of the image data.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of managing automatic print data for automatically printing the image data by the printer in a directory of the recording medium.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of providing the automatic print data in a DPOF file.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of sensing the image data.

18. (Original) A method for processing data for an image processing apparatus equipped with a printing unit and that permits loading and unloading of a recording medium that is mountable on a digital camera and stores image data photographed by the digital camera, the method comprising:

recording print setting items according to a specification of the printing unit in the recording medium;

performing image processings on the image data according the automatic print data read from the recording medium; and

controlling a printing process to be performed by the printing unit of the image data processed by the image processing unit based on the automatic print data recorded in the recording medium.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the recording step records the print setting items in a directory independent of a directory that stores the image data.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the print setting items include print function data of the printing unit.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 20, wherein the print function data includes at least one of a staple function data and two-side print function data.

22. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the automatic print data is a DPOF file.

23. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus that permits loading and unloading of a recording medium that stores image data so as to be readable by an external printer, the image processing apparatus comprising:

an analysis unit that receives ~~analyzes~~ print setting items transmitted from the external ~~[[a]]~~ printer via wireless communication and analyzes the received print setting items, to set, in advance by the image processing apparatus, a print subject image and a print condition onto the recording medium ; and

a generation unit that generates additional data relating to a print condition ~~setting~~ required upon printing by the printer based on the print setting items analyzed by the analysis unit.

24. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the print setting items include at least one of a index print instruction, a trimming instruction, a rotation instruction, a sharpness setting instruction, a staple setting instruction and a zooming instruction.

25. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 23 comprises a digital camera, wherein the print setting items are transmitted through communication with the printer.

26. (Currently amended) A method for processing data for an image processing apparatus that permits loading and unloading of a recording medium that stores image data so as to be readable by an external printer, the method comprising:

receiving analyzing print setting items transmitted from the external [[a]] printer via wireless communication and analyzing the received print setting items, to set, in advance by the image processing apparatus, a print subject image and a print condition onto the recording medium; and

generating additional data relating to a print condition ~~setting~~ required upon printing by the printer based on the print setting items analyzed in the analyzing step.

27. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing that stores program codes of the method recited in claim 26.

28. (Withdrawn) A recording apparatus that generates automatic playback control data for image data and stores the image data and the automatic playback control data in a recording medium, the recording apparatus comprising:

an interface that is connectable to a removable storage medium;

an analysis unit that analyzes data for setting items stored in the storage medium that is connected to the interface;

a display unit that displays setting items for setting the automatic playback control data based on an analysis result of the analysis unit;

a setting unit that sets the automatic playback control data for the image data based on the setting items displayed on the display unit; and

a recording unit that records the automatic playback control data set by the setting unit together with the image data in the storage medium.

29. (Withdrawn) A method for processing data for a recording apparatus that generates automatic playback control data for image data and stores the image data and the automatic playback control data in a storage medium, the method comprising:

connecting a removable storage medium that stores data for setting items to an interface of the storage apparatus;

analyzing the data for setting items that is stored in the removable storage medium that is connected to the interface of the storage apparatus;

displaying setting items for setting the automatic playback control data based on an analysis result in the step of analyzing;

setting the automatic playback control data for the image data based on the setting items that are displayed; and

recording the automatic playback control data set in the step of setting together with the image data in the removable storage medium.

30. (Withdrawn) A recording apparatus that stores program codes of the method recited in claim 29.

31. (Withdrawn) A recording apparatus that generates automatic playback control data for image data and stores the image data and the automatic playback control data in a storage medium, the recording apparatus comprising:

an analysis unit that analyzes data for setting items transmitted via wireless communication;

a display unit that displays setting items for setting the automatic playback control data based on an analysis result of the analysis unit;

a setting unit that sets the automatic playback control data for the image data based on the setting items displayed on the display unit; and

a recording unit that records the automatic playback control data set by the setting unit together with the image data in the storage medium.

32. (Withdrawn) A method for processing data for a recording apparatus that generates automatic playback control data for image data and stores the image data and the automatic playback control data in a storage medium, the method comprising:

analyzing the data for setting items transmitted via wireless communication;

displaying setting items for setting the automatic playback control data based on an analysis result in the step of analyzing;

setting the automatic playback control data for the image data based on the setting items that are displayed; and

recording the automatic playback control data set in the step of setting together with the image data in the removable storage medium.

33. (Withdrawn) A recording apparatus that stores program codes of the method recited in claim 32.